

March 13, 1975

REC 44

62-82627-66

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter was received on March 7th. Inasmuch as the murder of Elizabeth Short was a matter not within the jurisdiction of this Bureau, I am unable to furnish you the information you requested. This case was handled by the Los Angeles Police Department and you may want to contact that Department for any assistance it may be able to furnish you.

Sincerely yours,

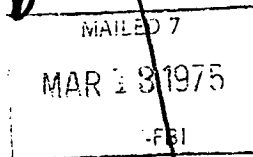
C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The "Black Dahlia Trials" was a recent television program about the brutal murder of Elizabeth Short in Los Angeles, California, January 15, 1947. Elizabeth Short was given the nickname of "Black Dahlia" because of her black hair and fondness of sheer black clothes.

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
p. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
& Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(3)



56 MAR 25 1975

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Kyle J. Wood

Dear [REDACTED]

I would like a copy of the fingerprint card on a former civilian military employee named Elizabeth Ann Short. They would have been taken sometime during her stay at Camp Cooke, California (now Vandenberg Air Force Base), after she applied for work there on January 30, 1943.

She is the subject of a documentary that I am doing, and was also, the victim of a Los Angeles murder in the 1940's. I would like to have a copy of her prints, for not only reference material, but also, for use in the documentary itself, showing the image on screen for no more than a couple of seconds, if I decide to include it.

I have enclosed a copy of her birth certificate, and her death certificate.

Her Social Security Number is #022-18-4750.

Thank You.

*[Signature]*  
6/18/93

Telephonically contacted Mr. Wood on 6/25/93 and advised him that a name check of the FBI ID Criminal and Civil Files was conducted without locating any fingerprint record identifiable with Ms. Short (Deceased 1947). Advised Mr. Wood that it is FBI ID policy to destroy the fingerprint card(s) of deceased individuals 7 years after notification of the death. Bu Files reflected arrest of Ms. Short by Santa Barbara, CA, P.D. and murder investigation handled by Los Angeles, CA, P.D. Mr. Wood was referred to these agencies for possible copy of Ms. Short's fingerprints. Mr. Wood appreciated quick response and advised that no written response is needed.

ENCLOSURE

NOTE: Bu File # re: Ms. Short's murder is 62-HQ 82627.

FBI CTIS DIV.  
6/25/93

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

1907		1721	
DISTRICT NO.		REGISTRAR'S NO.	
1. FULL NAME <b>Elizabeth Short</b>			
2. PLACE OF DEATH: (a) COUNTY <b>Los Angeles</b>			
(b) CITY OR TOWN <b>Los Angeles</b>			
(c) NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION <b>Found on Norton between Norton and Colliseum</b>			
(d) LENGTH OF STAY: (EXCEPT WHETHER YEARS, MONTHS OR DAYS)			
IN HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION <b>unknown</b>			
IN THIS COMMUNITY <b>unknown</b>			
(e) IF FOREIGN BORN, HOW LONG IN THE U. S. A. <b>9</b> YEARS			
3. (e) IF VETERAN, NAME OF WAR <b>no</b>		3. (f) SOCIAL SECURITY NO. <b>unknown</b>	
4. SEX <b>female</b>	5. COLOR OR RACE <b>cauc</b>	6. (a) SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED <b>single</b>	
6. (b) NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE		6. (c) AGE OF HUSBAND OR WIFE IF ALIVE	
7. BIRTHDATE OF DECEASED <b>July 29, 1924</b>			
8. AGE <b>22</b> YRS <b>5</b> MOS <b>16</b> DAYS			
9. BIRTHPLACE <b>Hyde Park, Mass.</b>			
10. USUAL OCCUPATION <b>Waitress</b>			
11. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS <b>restaurant</b>			
12. NAME <b>Cleo Alvin Short</b>			
13. BIRTHPLACE <b>Virginia</b>			
14. MAIDEN NAME <b>Phoebe M Sawyer</b>			
15. BIRTHPLACE <b>Maine</b>			
16. (a) INFORMANT <b>Phoebe Sawyer</b>			
(b) ADDRESS <b>115 Salem St. Medford Mass.</b>			
17. (a) SPECIAL CREMATION OR BURIAL <b>none</b>			
(b) DATE <b>Jan 1-47</b>			
(c) PLACE <b>Cal. Cem. Berkeley</b>			
18. (a) EMBALMER'S SIGNATURE <b>Frank P. Dell</b>			
LICENSE NO. <b>1473</b>			
(b) FUNERAL DIRECTOR <b>Pierce Brothers</b>			
Address <b>701 Washington Blvd.</b>			
By <b>groves</b>			
JAN 27 1947			
19. (a) DATE FILED (b)			
STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH			
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH			
20. DATE OF DEATH: MONTH <b>January</b> DAY <b>14</b> OR MINUTE <b>15</b>			
21. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE			
I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I ATTENDED THE DECEASED			
FROM <b>19</b> TO <b>19</b>			
THAT I LAST SAW HIM <b>alive</b>			
ON <b>19</b> AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED ON THE DATE AND HOUR STATED ABOVE.			
IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH <b>Hemorrhage + shock</b>			
<b>Concussion of the brain + lacerations of the face</b>			
OTHER CONDITIONS (INCLUDE PREGNANCY WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DEATH)			
MAJOR FINDINGS: OF OPERATIONS			
DATE OF OPERATION			
OF AUTOPSY <b>Anatomic</b>			
22. CORONER'S CERTIFICATE			
I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I HELD AN			
AUTOPSY, INDUSTRIAL INQUIRY			
ON THE REMAINS OF THE DECEASED AND FROM SUCH ACTION THAT DECEASED CAME TO			
DEATH ON THE DATE AND HOUR			
DURATION			
PHYSICIAN			
SUBSCRIBE THE CAUSE TO WHICH SUCH DEATH IS CHARGED STATISTICALLY			
23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO A LETHAL CAUSE, FILL IN THE FOLLOWING:			
(a) ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, HOMICIDE, OR HOMICIDE			
(b) DATE OF INJURY <b>1/14/47</b>			
(c) WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR <b>Los Angeles, California</b>			
(d) DID INJURY OCCUR IN OR ABOUT HOME, OR FARM, IN INDUSTRIAL PLACE, OR IN PUBLIC PLACE <b>Unknown</b>			
(e) MEANS OF INJURY <b>struck with unknown instrument</b>			
24. CORONER'S OR PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE <b>Ben H. Brown</b>			
(SPECIFY WHICH)			
Address <b>Los Angeles, Calif.</b>			
DATE <b>1/14/47</b>			
U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS			

This is to certify that this document is a true copy of the official record filed with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.



*Charles Weissburg*  
CHARLES WEISSBURG  
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

NOV 2 - 1992  
19-0998245

This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying the Seal and Signature of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE





# REGISTRY DIVISION, CITY OF BOSTON

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Certificate No 083698

CERTIFIED COPY OF RECORD OF **BIRTH** IN OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTRAR

CC

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I hold the office of..... City Registrar of the City of Boston, and have the custody of the Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths required by law to be kept in said City; and I certify that the following facts appear on said Records:

No. 11509	Date of Birth July 29, 1924	Name of Child Elizabeth Short	
SEX	COLOR	NAME, SURNAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER	NAME, MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER
Female	White	Cleo A. Short Gloucester, Va.	Phoebe M. Sawyer Millbridge, Me
PLACE OF BIRTH		RESIDENCE OF PARENTS	
Boston		Boston	
ma		ma	
OCCUPATION OF PARENT		NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT	
Salesman		C. E. Bryant	
DATE OF RECORD		m. d.	
August 9, 1924			

I further certify that by annexation, the Records of the following-named cities and towns are in the custody of the City Registrar of Boston:—

ANNEXED	ANNEXED
East Boston.....1837	Charlestown.....1874
South Boston.....1804	Brighton.....1874
Roxbury.....1868	West Roxbury.....1912
Dorchester.....1870	Hyde Park.....1912

Date of amendment:.....

WITNESS my hand and the SEAL of the CITY REGISTRAR

on this..... APR 29 1993..... A. D. 19.....

Judith A. McCarthy

City Registrar

By Chapter 314 of the Acts of 1892, "the certificates or attestations of either Assistant City Registrar shall have the same force and effect as that of the City Registrar."

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

### **FBI Identifies Girl Killed in Los Angeles**

The FBI announced last night that a young girl whose butchered body was found in Los Angeles had been identified as Elizabeth Short, 22, a native of Hyde Park, Mass.

Check of fingerprint records, the FBI said, showed that the girl had applied for a clerk's job in the post exchange at Camp Cooke, California January 30, 1943. The FBI added that she was taken into custody at Santa Barbara on September 23, 1943, for alleged violation of juvenile court laws, after which she was put on probation.

# FBI Identifies Girl Mutilated by Butcher Slayer

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 16 (CTPS)—Fingerprints have identified the attractive victim of a brutal sex-fiend murder found Wednesday in a vacant lot in West Los Angeles as Elizabeth Short, 22, of Santa Barbara, the FBI said today.

The identification was made as scores of persons telephoned and visited the homicide detail in City Hall, claiming the girl to be a relative or friend.

## Former Army Employee

The victim had been employed in 1943 at Camp Cooke, Calif., as a post exchange clerk.

At the time she went to work at the army post, 100 miles north of here, her fingerprints were taken and forwarded to Washington, a routine wartime procedure with all civilian employees at military bases.

One youth was questioned at City Hall as a possible suspect in the sadistic slaying, while in the coroner's office, autopsy, physicians announced that Miss Short died of hemorrhage and shock. The young woman's mouth was slit with a knife three inches on each side while she was still alive, the doctors said. This plus a concussion of the brain induced by blows on the head caused her death, they stated. Other mutilation of the body, which was found

cut in half and otherwise dis-  
crated, occurred after death in  
their opinion.

## \$10,000 Reward Planned

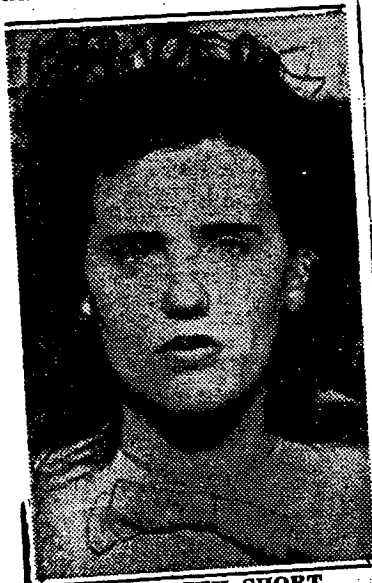
So shocked by the details of the butcher-murder were city officials that a \$10,000 reward was planned for the capture of the slayer. City Councilman Lloyd G. Davis said he would ask the posting of the reward at the earliest opportunity.

Picked up by officers early today at a bus depot, Cecil French, 23, of Bakersfield, was booked on suspicion of a morals offense and questioned concerning possible implication in Miss Short's murder.

French, said officers, was seen molesting women in the vicinity of the depot. His automobile, parked nearby, was shy a back seat. French told police that he had removed the seat to carry some machinery. He was not considered a "hot" suspect in the case.

Santa Barbara police revealed that Miss Short was arrested there in September 1943, when she was seen drinking with a number of soldiers. A minor, she claimed one of the soldiers was her husband.

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Carson ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Hendon ✓  
Mr. Pennington ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓



ELIZABETH SHORT

Mr. Tolson ✓  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
 Mr. Clegg ✓  
 Mr. Coffey ✓  
 Mr. Glavin ✓  
 Mr. Ladd ✓  
 Mr. Nichols ✓  
 Mr. Rosen ✓  
 Mr. Tracy ✓  
 Mr. Carson ✓  
 Mr. Egan ✓  
 Mr. Hendon ✓  
 Mr. Pennington ✓  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
 Mr. Nease ✓  
 Miss Gandy ✓

# Torture-Slaying Victim Feared Sadist Suitor

(Pictures on Page 1.)

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 17—A suspected suitor who kept pretty Elizabeth Short in deadly fear of her life was hunted today as a suspect in her torture-murder.

Investigators withheld the man's name, but said the 22-year-old girl told friends on several occasions she was "deadly afraid" of him.

The suitor was described by Dorothy French, with whom Miss Short lived in San Diego, Calif.

She said Elizabeth was "very popular" with men and had many dates but often spoke about hiding from a "monster" who frightened her.

She left the French home hurriedly for Hollywood Jan. 8, a week before a frenzied killer hacked and tortured her to death.

On the night she was killed, a ter-

ror-stricken girl answering her description begged a policeman for protection from a "jealous marine" who threatened to kill her.

Policewoman Myrtle McBride said the girl spoke of meeting a bus from San Diego. She was sobbing and hysterical from fear.

The next morning Miss Short's body, cut in two and savagely mutilated, was found in a Lovers' Lane vacant lot. It was identified last night by fingerprints in FBI files.

Pounce said she apparently had hung nude by her feet during hours of torture before she died of shock and hemorrhage.

Search for the fiendish killer centered around a Main-st cafe where the girl told Miss McBride she had run into her former boy friend, who threatened to "kill her if he ever found her with another man."

Miss McBride accompanied the girl to the bar where the girl talked to two men and a woman for a few minutes, then left. Miss McBride said she told her to go home.

"I can't," Elizabeth said. "I'm waiting for someone whose bus is due in at 10:30."

The 10:30 bus comes from San Diego, where she was believed to have been employed at the naval hospital.

The development was the first clue in the sadistic slaying, described by police as the most revolting sex crime in years. The FBI said Miss Short had been picked up as a juvenile delinquent in Santa Barbara, Calif., in 1943, for drinking in a restaurant with soldiers.

Policewoman Mary Unkefer, who cared for her before she was sent home to her mother, Mrs. Phoebe Short of Medford, Mass., described her as "very good looking and nicely dressed."

The blue-eyed brunet was mutilated and butchered early Wednesday in a secret hideaway while her thighs, wrists and ankles were bound.

Chief Autopsy Surgeon Dr. Frederick Newbarr listed the cause of death as shock and hemorrhage from the deep slashes the slayer inflicted.

Her mouth was ripped from ear to ear while she was still alive, and Dr. Newbarr said the agony of that would bring on shock. Then she apparently was beaten about the head and face with a club, causing the concussion but still leaving her conscious enough to suffer.

He said the horrible mutilation of the torso occurred after death.

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62-82627-A  
 JAN 22 1947



## An Artist Fails a Slayer

News-Examiner

Compare the drawing at left with the photo. The sketch was made by a police artist from the almost unrecognizable features of a then-unidentified girl whose mutilated body was found in a Hollywood lot. As the photo shows, the artist's reconstruction would have nullified the slayer's attempt to hide the identity of his victim had not police been able to identify the girl as Elizabeth Short, 22, thru her fingerprints. (See story, Page 14.)



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



## Police Seek Mad Pervert In Girl's Death

Los Angeles, Jan. 17 (AP).—The mutilation slayer of attractive 22-year-old Elizabeth Short, whose brutal butchery was described by a police psychiatrist as that of a sex-perverted madman, was being sought on a Nationwide scale today, with authorities trying particularly to locate her several "boy friends."

Her suitors were many, said Police Capt. Loren Q. Martin of Long Beach, where the girl lived until recently. He added that to hangers-on at a neighborhood drug store near where she lived she was known as "The Black Dahlia," for her raven-hair and the jet black clothing which she usually wore.

When her mutilated, bisected body was found in a vacant lot Wednesday morning, her jet hair had been hennaed and was just beginning to grow out in its natural color.

### Seek Army Lieutenant

Police would particularly like to locate an unidentified Army lieutenant, described as "tall and handsome," whom Miss Short allegedly told friends she intended to marry. She also was frequently visited at her Long Beach hotel by a Navy man, Martin said, and in Los Angeles, Policewoman Myrl McBride asserted Miss Short once asked her for protection from a discharged Marine whom the girl described as "insanely jealous."

Martin said she also reportedly had a number of other suitors.

Miss Short, native of Hyde Park, Mass., came here from Medford, in the same State, about four years ago for her health, police were informed. Shortly afterward she took a clerk's job in the post exchange at Camp Cooke, near Santa Barbara, where, said her former boss, Mrs. Inez Keeling, she at first was shy and bashful and never dated the soldiers.

### A Model Employee

At that time, Mrs. Keeling told police, she was a model employee in all respects, not smoking and seldom drinking. A few months later, said Mrs. Keeling, she began to go out with the soldiers several times a week.

Identification was made through fingerprints on record with the FBI, both as a result of her Army post job and through her arrest in 1943 as a juvenile delinquent. She is the daughter of Mrs. Phoebe M. Short, Medford, Mass.

Dr. Paul de River, police psychiatrist, said her murder was plainly

## Butchered Girl Was Engaged



Associated Press WIREPHOTO  
ELIZABETH SHORT

of Medford, Mass., 22-year-old victim of a Los Angeles butcher-slaving, had planned to wed an unknown Army Air Force lieutenant undergoing hospitalization, a friend of the slain girl said yesterday. Mrs. Marjorie Graham of Medford, said Miss Short told her of wedding plans last October, when they were sharing a hotel room in Hollywood.

the work of a sex maniac manifesting "the sadistic component of a sado-masochist complex."

(In Medford, Mass., Mrs. Phoebe M. Short, mother of five daughters, said she would bring the slain girl's body home for burial. She said that Betty told her in a letter two weeks ago that she had been doing "bit parts" in motion pictures until she took employment in a Navy hospital at San Diego.)

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Leonard \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# Salesman Claims Alibi In Mutilation Murder Of Girl in Los Angeles

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 20.—A red-haired former Army musician was booked on suspicion of murder today in the mutilation slaying of Elizabeth Short, 22.

Robert Manley, 25, salesman for a pipe clamp concern, was taken in custody last night as he returned from a trip to San Francisco. After being examined for hours by homicide detectives working in relays, he finally fell asleep answering questions.

Capt. Jack Donahoe of the police homicide bureau, wearily winding up hours of questioning, announced: "Most of the evidence seems to be on Manley's side."

## Lie Detector Used.

The salesman willingly submitted to a lie detector test, according to Capt. Donahoe, which classified its results as "confused."

"We'll try again later," he added. "He's tired out, now. And so are we."

Capt. Donahoe made these points clear:

No bloodstains were found in Manley's car. (Police earlier had determined that Miss Short's body, after being butchered, was washed and hauled to the vacant lot where it was found.)

Manley's alibi for the time she died, early last Wednesday, "is a family affair" but "does not appear to have been put together."

Manley said he was at home asleep. He was a wife and a 4-month-old baby.

His wife, Harriett, met him at the jail, smiled fondly and chatted with him in low tones in a corner before he stepped nervously to the booking desk.

## License Number Checked.

The officer added:

Manley acknowledged meeting Miss Short in San Diego two weeks before Christmas; sending her a telegram that he would see her again January 8; meeting her and driving with her to Los Angeles, after a stop at a Pacific Beach Motel. Capt. Donahoe said Manley's detention was the result of a check of license numbers taken by the motel manager.

Miss Short's body was found in a vacant lot the morning of January 15. Manley said he left for the north on a business trip with a friend January 17, and read in newspapers there of Miss Short's identification.

The girl, a former Medford, (Mass.) resident with movie ambitions, has been identified by police as the widow of an Army major with friends in many cities.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## 'Black Dahlia' Suspect to Face Lie Detector

By United Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 20—A 25-year-old former Army musician, handsome Robert "Red" Manley, admitted to police today a month-long gay flirtation with murdered Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia," but steadfastly denied any connection with her death.

Manley, married and the father of a four-months-old boy, said he "turned sick inside" when he learned that Miss Short's severed body was found in a vacant lot Wednesday.

### SUFFERING FROM SHOCK

Police booked Manley on suspicion of murder, nevertheless, and said he was suffering from shock.

Taken into custody after a business trip to San Francisco, Manley, a pipe clamp salesman, consented to a lie detector test at midnight.

Police later said Manley was suffering from shock and nervous strain, and he "couldn't establish a good normal" in the detector test and will be given another today.

"I'll go thru with it," he said. "I know I'm in the clear. I have nothing to worry about."

His attractive blond wife, Harriet, 22, sat in another room at police headquarters, wringing her hands and leaning for support on William Morris Manley, the father.

Police decided to pick up Manley after linking him to Miss Short thru evidence uncovered since an intensive week-end investigation. They declined to say what actually led them to him.

### MET AT BUS STOP

He admitted his association with Miss Short, 22-year-old beauty whose last hours were linked to a red-haired companion. He said he brought her here from San Diego Jan. 9, but denied seeing her since that day when he left her at a downtown hotel.

Miss Short, who had a host of boy friends, because known as the "Black Dahlia" because of her love for sheer, black clothing.

Police said William F. Sullivan,



MISS SHORT  
 "Such a pretty girl"

Railway Express clerk at Los Angeles station, tentatively identified Manley as a man who accompanied Miss Short to the station the day before she died.

Sullivan said she inquired about procedure for shipping a trunk and suitcase to Ketchikan, Alaska.

Manley, who lives with his family at suburban South Gate, said he met Miss Short Dec. 15, a month before her mutilated body was found. She was standing outside a bus station at San Diego when Manley, there on a business trip, drove by.

"She was such a pretty girl I stopped and raked up a conversation with her," he said.

### "DID YOU DO IT?"

He said he had a date with her that night and "kissed her a few times, but that's all."

When he last saw her Jan. 9 at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, he said that she hoped to meet her sister, Mrs. Virginia West of Berkeley, Cal.

The sister wasn't there, he said.

left her at 6:30 in the evening—and that's the last I've seen of poor Beth."

A slender, neatly-dressed man, Manley said he was at San Francisco on business and did not learn of Miss Short's death until her picture appeared in the papers Friday.

"I called my wife," he said. "The first thing she asked me—crying—was 'Did you do it?' I told her, 'Of course not, Honey. What ever made you think I did?'"

He said he first met Miss Short in 1934 in San Diego, then "fell in love" with her again in January when he noticed scratches on her back.

He said he noticed the scratches on her back when he saw her in San Diego Jan. 9 after they spent the night together at a hotel, he said.

No charge was filed against him, but his auto, a black Studebaker similar to one described by Miss Short's friend as belonging to the mysterious star-red-haired companion—was impounded. Manley was picked up at the home of a fellow salesman.

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



## Only the Photo Remains

News-Examiner

A night club photo found in a trunk (left) is the only souvenir of a war-time romance between 22-year-old Elizabeth Short, known as the "Black Dahlia," and Maj. Matt Gordon Jr. who she reportedly married. The major died in a plane crash, Miss Short at the hands of a Los Angeles sadist. At right is Mrs. Phoebe Short as she arrived in Los Angeles to claim her daughter's body. (Story, Page 9.)

# 'Red' Seized In Butchery of Black Dahlia

Salesman, 31, Admits  
Car Trip With Victim

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 19 (UP) — A 31-year-old salesman known as "Red," was taken into custody tonight for questioning in the mutilation death of Elizabeth Short, 22-year-old beauty who was known to her friends as the "Black Dahlia."

Robert Manley, of South Gate, Calif., the salesman, was arrested after an intense search for a red-haired companion who is believed to have spent the last hours with the girl before she was butchered Wednesday.

## Admits Auto Trip

Police said Manley admitted knowing the murdered girl, and said he drove her to Los Angeles from San Diego prior to her death.

Manley's automobile, a black Studebaker, was impounded by police.

Friends of Miss Short told police that Manley bore a resemblance to a man named "Red" with whom she associated. He was arrested at the home of Harry Palmer, of Eagle Rock, a fellow salesman. His car was found in Palmer's garage.

Miss Short was in a jolly mood at a drive-in restaurant near San Diego the day before her mutilated body, severed at the waist, was found in a vacant lot here, police learned.

A waitress told police that she served the black-haired, black-clad girl and "Red" the evening of January 14 at a drive-in restaurant near San Diego. Jadell Gray, the waitress, said she knew Miss Short as "Beth" and had served her on other occasions.

No hint of the dark tragedy to

(Turn to Page 3, Col. 3)

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



### Mother and Sister of Slain Girl

Mrs. Phoebe Short, mother of Elizabeth Short whose dismembered body was found last week, is shown (above) with another daughter, Mrs. Virginia West. Pale and weary, Mrs. Short arrived at San Francisco airport en route to Los Angeles to aid police in the search for the slayer of the 22-year-old "Black Dahlia."

I.N.P. Soundphoto

## 'Red' Seized In Butchery of Black Dahlia

(Continued from First Page)

come clouded the party of the young couple, according to the waitress. She said they drank

beer, talked and laughed a lot. Miss Gray said "Red" was about six feet tall, weighed 170 pounds and very vain.

"He looked repeatedly at himself in a cigaret machine mirror, apparently to see if his hair was combed," she said. "It was combed all right—very neatly."

Meanwhile, police released Glen Thorpe, 32, former Laramie (Wyo.) cook, who was arrested at Merced after he mumbled in his sleep during a bus-ride, "I forgot to—cut the scar off her leg." Thorpe had an airtight alibi, police said.

San Diego police said "Red" lived in an auto court not far from the drive-in restaurant where he was seen with the pretty, young erstwhile movie extra and party girl. Miss Short, at the time of the slaying, was living in an apartment in the Bayview Terrace housing project, across the highway from the drive-in restaurant.

The latest tip tied in with the information given police by a neighbor of Mrs. Elvera French, in whose apartment Miss Short was staying.



Elizabeth Short

Robert Maule

# Push Hunt for 'Vain Red-Head' In Murder of 'Black Dahlia'

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 19 (UP).—The elusive "Red," hottest suspect in the "Black Dahlia" murder mystery, was a vain, red-haired youth who lived near 22-year-old Elizabeth Short and was seen drinking beer with her the night before her mutilated body was found in a vacant lot here, police said today.

Tonight police seemed to know everything about him except his name and whereabouts.

That they might even know his name was indicated by Capt. Donohoe of the Homicide Squad, who said police were looking for a red-haired former Marine with a police record extending back to his youth. The young man also was known as Bob, Donohoe said.

A waitress told police she served the black-haired, black-clad girl and "Red" the evening of Jan. 14 at a drive-in restaurant near San Diego. The waitress, Jadel Gray, said she knew Miss Short as "Beth" and had served her on other occasions. No hint of the tragedy to come

clouded the party of the young couple, according to the waitress. She said they drank beer, talked and laughed a lot. Miss Gray said "Red" is about six feet tall, weighs 170 pounds and is very vain.

"He looked repeatedly at himself in a cigaret machine mirror, apparently to see if his hair was combed," she said. "It was combed all right—very neatly."

Meanwhile, police released Glen Thorpe, 32, former Laramie, Wyo., cook, who was arrested at Merced after he mumbled in his sleep during a bus-ride, "I



Edward Glen Thorpe  
"Airtight alibi" cleared him of  
any complicity in murder.  
(AP Wirephoto)

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

forgot to cut the scar off his leg." Thorpe had an airtight alibi, police said.

San Diego police said "Red" lived in an auto court not far from the drive-in restaurant where he was seen with a pretty erstwhile movie extra—a party girl. Miss Short, at the time of the slaying, lived at Bayview Terrace housing project across the highway from the restaurant.

The latest tip tied in with information given by a neighbor of Mrs. Elvera French, in whose apartment Miss Short was staying.

The neighbor said she saw a red-haired youth. She was seen enter a light-colored coupe with him. The car bore a trans sticker with the words "Huntington Beach" or "Hunting Park."

Friends said Miss Short's mirror was an airlines employee who lived in Huntington Park.

Two unidentified men also were sought in San Francisco for questioning about possible information on the girl's activities and acquaintances.

George Plette, of Redondo Beach, who was arrested in Parker, Ariz., on an auto theft charge and questioned when admitted taking the car from a girl named "Betty" at Redondo Beach, was cleared of the Short slaying today.



# Police Quiz Salesman in Girl's Slaying



Associated Press WIREPHOTO  
**ELIZABETH SHORT,**

Los Angeles, Jan. 19 (U.P.)—A 31-year-old salesman known as "Red," was taken into custody tonight for questioning in the mutilation death of Elizabeth Short, 22-year-old beauty who was known to her friends as the "Black Dahlia."

The salesman, Robert Manley, South Gate, Calif., was arrested after an intense search for a red-haired companion who is believed to have spent the last hours with the girl before she was butchered Wednesday.

Officers said Manley admitted knowing the murdered girl, and said he drove her to Los Angeles from San Diego prior to her death.

Manley's automobile, a black Studebaker, was impounded by police.

Friends of Miss Short told officers that Manley bore a resemblance to a man named "Red" with whom she had associated. He was arrested at the home of a fellow salesman, Harry Palmer, Eagle Rock. His car was in Palmer's garage.

Miss Short was in at a drive-in restaurant near San Diego the day before her mutilated body, severed at the waist, was found in a vacant lot here, police learned.

Jadell Gray, a waitress, told police that she served the black-haired, black-clad girl and "Red" the evening of January 14 at a drive-in restaurant near San Diego. She said they drank beer, talked and laughed a lot. Miss Gray said "Red" was about 6 feet tall, weighing 170 pounds and very vain.

Meanwhile, police released Glen Thorpe, 32, former Laramie, Wyo., cook, who was arrested at Merced after he mumbled in his sleep during a bus ride, "I forgot to cut the scar off her leg." Thorpe had an airtight alibi, police said.

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Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# 'Dahlia' Murder Suspect Freed After 2d Lie Test

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 20 (UP)—Robert (Red) Manley, 25, was released by authorities today after two lie detector tests failed to link him with the mutilation murder of Elizabeth Short, 22, "the Black Dahlia."

The handsome former Army musician willingly submitted to the tests, declaring he had nothing to do with the murder. His wife and father both said he was at home the night Miss Short was slain and her body dumped in a vacant lot.

Release of Manley left police without a suspect in the five-day-old case. He was brought in for questioning late last night after having been sought since last Thursday.

Manley spent nearly two hours in the crime detection laboratories while police chemist Ray Pinker put him through a series of tests

to learn if his story were true.

Manley said he had had a flirtation with the black-haired girl whose bisected body was found here last Wednesday. But he had not harmed her in the slightest, he insisted.

While Manley was in the crime laboratory, Miss Short's mother, Mrs. Phoebe May Short, of Medford, Mass., returned from Berkeley, Cal., and visited the coroner's office.

Despite the plea of Coroner Ben Brown that it was necessary for a member of the dead girl's family to identify the body, neither Mrs. Short nor her other daughter, Mrs. Virginia West, would view it.

"I just can't do it," Mrs. Short sobbed. "It would be too

Continued on Page 8

## MOTHER WON'T VIEW BODY

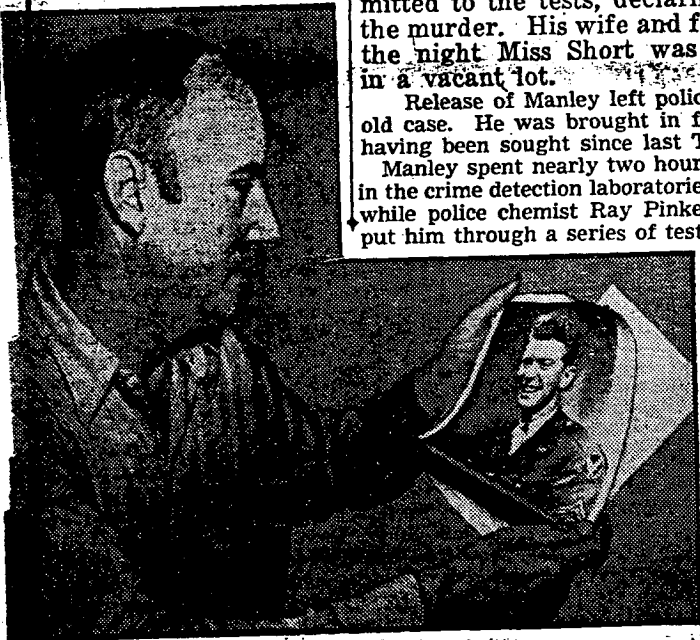


Elizabeth Short

Neither her mother, Mrs. Phoebe Short, nor her sister, Mrs. West, would view body of the mutilated girl yesterday.

(International Photo)

## IDENTIFIES 'RED'S' PHOTO



William Sullivan, railway express clerk at Union Station, Los Angeles, says man he saw with Elizabeth Short 24 hours before she died is same one he views in photo of "Red" Manley.

(International SOUNDphoto)

# 'Dahlia' Murder Suspect Freed

Continued from Page 3

much for me to do. You can't expect me, her mother, to look at her now."

Brown said he would attempt to get the girl's father, Cleo Short, estranged from his wife, to serve as identification witness. Brown said an inquest would be held Saturday.

Throughout the test, Manley's attractive blonde wife, Harriet, 22, sat in police headquarters with his father, William Morris Manley. Both insisted he was innocent, a good husband and incapable of such a crime.

Manley was permitted to see his wife for five minutes before being booked and they tearfully embraced.

They were married 15 months ago when Manley was discharged from the Army, and are the parents of a four-month-old son.

## Seized After Hunt

Police arrested Manley last night at the home of a friend here. He had just returned from a business trip to San Francisco. A widespread search had started for him after witnesses told of Miss Short's acquaintance with a red-haired man. Officers would not disclose how they located Manley.

The suspect, who lives with his family at suburban South Gate, said he met Miss Short Dec. 15, a month before her mutilated body was found. She was standing outside a bus station at San Diego when Manley, there on a business trip, drove by.

"She was such a pretty girl that I stopped and raked up a conversation with her," he said.

He said he had a date with her that night and "kissed her a few times—but that's all."

He said he "just ran into her" again in January when she had "bad scratches on both her arms above the elbows on the outside." He said she blamed a "jealous" boy friend for the scratches. He drove her here from San Diego Jan. 9 after they spent the night together at a hotel—the last he saw of her, he said. He was supposed to meet her sister then, he added.

"But the sister wasn't there. I left her at 6:30 in the evening—and that's the last I've seen of poor Beth," he concluded.



**RELEASED AFTER TEST** Robert "Red" Manley, ex-Army musician, stoically undergoes lie detector test by Los Angeles police, after arrest on suspicion of murder in mutilation-slaying Elizabeth Short. He was released after second test failed to link him with the slaying. (Story and Other Photos on Page 3)

## Wife Cheers Her 'Red'



Robert  
"Red" Manley  
is cheered by  
wife, Harriett,  
just before he  
was questioned  
in murder of  
"Black Dahlia"  
girl. He was  
later released.

(AP WIREphoto)

(Other Photo on  
Page 1)

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# 'Red' Released In 'Black Dahlia' Horror-Murder

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 20 (UP). Robert "Red" Manley, 25, was released by authorities today after two lie detector tests failed to link him with the mutilation murder of Elizabeth Short, 22, "The Black Dahlia."

The handsome former army musicians willingly submitted to the tests, declaring he had nothing to do with the murder. His wife and father both said he was at home the night Miss Short was slain and her mutilated body dumped in a vacant lot.

## No Suspects Left

The release of Manley left police without a suspect in the five-day-old case. He was brought in for questioning late last night after having been sought since last Thursday.

Manley spent nearly two hours in the police crime detection laboratory while Ray Pinker, police chemist, put him through a series of tests to learn whether his story were true. He was held on a charge of suspicion of murder.

Following the test, Police Capt. Donohoe said Manley's reactions still were being checked. He admitted, however, that the second test was "no more conclusive" than the first.

Manley voluntarily submitted declaring he had no connection with her death. He said he had had a flirtation with the black-haired girl whose bisected body was found here last Wednesday. But he had not harmed her in the slightest, he insisted.

While Manley was in the crime laboratory, Mrs. Phoebe May Short of Medford, Mass., Miss Short's mother, returned from Berkeley, Calif., and visited the coroner's office.

Despite the plea of Coroner Brown that it was necessary for a member of the dead girl's family to identify the body, neither Mrs. Short nor Mrs. Virginia West, her other daughter, would view it.

## "I Can't Do It"

"I just can't do it," Mrs. Short sobbed. "It would be too much for me to do. You can't expect me, her mother, to look at her now."

Coroner Brown said he would attempt to get the girl's father, Cleo Short, estranged from his wife, to serve as identification witness.

Brown said an inquest would be held Saturday.

Following his second lie detector test, Manley was returned to jail pending further questioning.

Throughout the test, Harriet, 22, Manley's attractive blond wife, sat in police headquarters with William Morris Manley, his father.

Both insisted Manley was innocent, a good husband and incapable of such a crime.

Manley was permitted to see his wife briefly before being booked and they tearfully embraced. Capt. Donohoe permitted them to be together for five minutes.

They were married 15 months ago when Manley was discharged from the army, and are the parents of a four-months-old son.

## Admits Knowing Girl

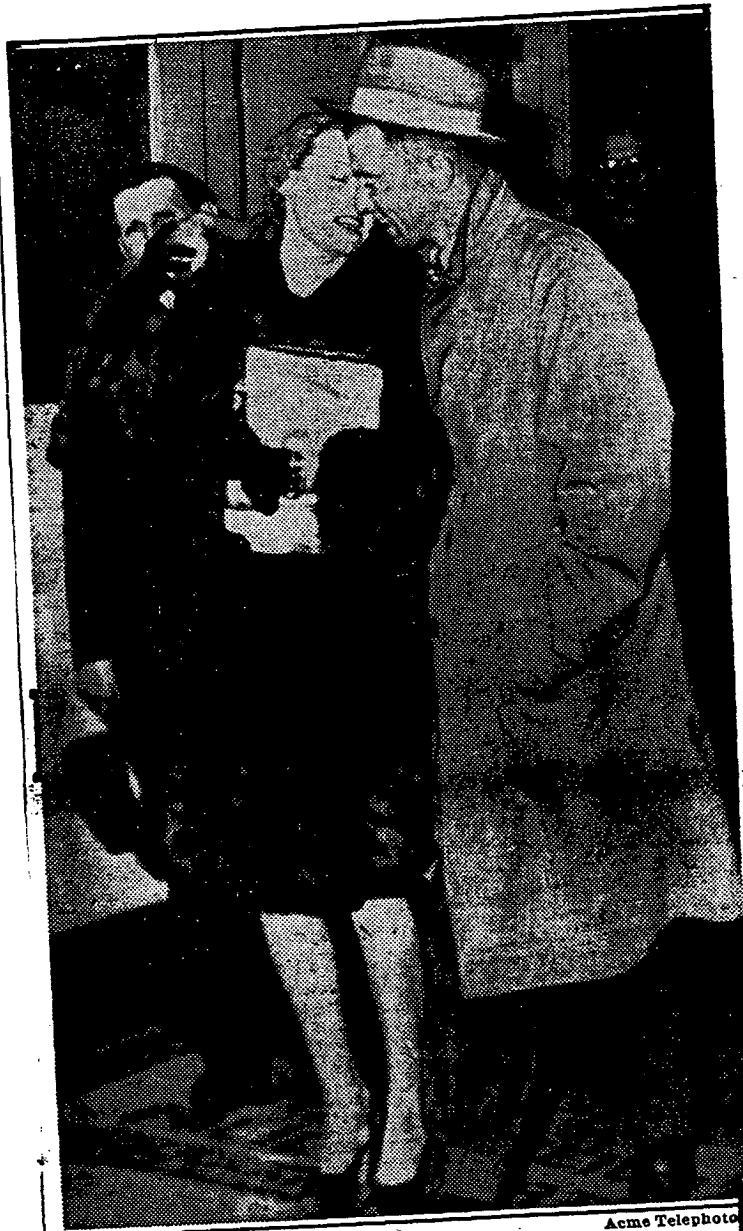
Manley admitted knowing Miss Short for a month and said he drove her here from San Diego January 9, but denied seeing her after that.

The red-haired salesman said he picked up Miss Short outside a bus station at San Diego on December 15 and dated her several times thereafter when in San Diego on business.

"I left her on January 9 at about 6:30 p.m. in a hotel lobby and I haven't seen her since," he said.

Police arrested Manley last night at the home of a friend here. He had just returned from a business trip to San Francisco. A widespread search had started for him after witnesses told of Miss Short's acquaintance with a red-haired man. Officers would not disclose how they located Manley.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



Acme Telephoto

### Her Faith Vindicated

Tears of joy stream down the face of Mrs. Robert "Red" Manley as she leaves a Los Angeles police station with her husband. Manley was released by authorities and cleared of any complicity in the "Black Dahlia" horror murder.

# Cops Seeking Female Sadist

## Former Roommate Suspected of 'Black Dahlia' Slaying

By United Press

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Jan. 21—Police made a complete about-face today in their efforts to find the torture-murderer of pretty Elizabeth Short, and began an intensive search for a woman, rather than a man, as the mutilator of the "Black Dahlia."

Former roommates of the strikingly beautiful 22-year-old girl were placed first on the list of those to be questioned. The decision to change all previous tactics of the week-long search came after a meeting of the city's top-ranking police officials which began last night and lasted well into the morning hours.

### WITHOUT LUGGAGE

Prime suspect in the new drive is a girl roommate who disappeared Jan. 15, the day Miss Short's tortured and mutilated body, hacked in two, was found in a lovers' lane.

Adding to the belief that the girl's slayer may have been a woman were two factors:

First, she was known to be in Los Angeles Jan. 9 without any luggage which would indicate she spent the week before she was killed with some woman who could provide extra clothing and makeup.

Second, police officials said they believed the killing followed a pattern of other horror-murders by women.

Her presence in Los Angeles Jan. 9 was sworn to by Robert (RED) Manley, 25, who was cleared of suspicion yesterday after a long grilling by police and two lie detector tests.

### JEALOUS SUITOR SOUGHT

Manley suggested another possible suspect, a swathy, sticky "blind date" who jealously scratched Miss Short's arms until they bled. The man was insanely jealous of the girl, he said.

"I saw some scratches on her arms when I had a date with her," Mr. Manley said. "She told me a blind date had been arranged for her in San Diego with this dark, swathy man. This man thought another fellow got too friendly with her and she with him. He got insanely jealous. That's when he slapped and scratched her."

### NO MORE CHEATING

Mr. Manley saw the girl, whose coal-black hair and fondness for sheer, black clothing gave her the "Black Dahlia" nickname, on Jan. 9 when, he told police, he let her out of his auto at a Los Angeles hotel.

The police department's homicide



MR. MANLEY

squad, figuratively starting from scratch, was augmented by 100 addi-

tional policemen and began a wide-spread search for new clues to the girl's murderer.

Half of them combed the area where the bisected body was found, hunting for her clothing, bloody blankets, the ropes with which she was bound while tortured and her torture den.

The search turned up a military-type watch, still unidentified.

Other officers began a thoro check of all the Los Angeles drinking spots where the popular girl had been seen.

Others went to the Biltmore Hotel, where Mr. Manley said the girl was meeting a friend, the day he last saw her.

An inquest was set for tomorrow after Mrs. Phoebe Short, mother of the dead girl, identified her butchered body.

Mr. Manley's pretty blonde wife, who insisted her husband was innocent of the fiendish slaying, left the jail arm in arm with him.

"That's the last time I'll ever cheat on my wife, believe me," he declared.

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Carson ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Hendon ✓  
Mr. Pennington ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols ✓  
 Mr. Rosen ✓  
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 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Jan*

*276 July*



Mrs. Harriett Manley, 22, at Police Headquarters in Los Angeles, urges her husband to keep his chin up. Robert Manley, 25, red-haired former Army musician, questioned in the murder of Elizabeth Short, 22, whose nude body, slashed in two at the waist, was found on a vacant lot. Manley later survived two lie detector tests and was released.

Associated Press Wirephoto

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**Suspect Is Released  
 In Mutilation Murder**  
 Los Angeles, Jan. 20 (U.P.). —  
 Robert (Red) Manley, 25, was re-  
 leased by authorities today after  
 two lie detector tests failed to link  
 him with the mutilation murder of  
 Elizabeth Short, 22, "The Black  
 Dahlia." His wife and father both  
 said he was at home the night Miss  
 Short was slain and her mutilated  
 body dumped in a vacant lot.

# 'Dahlia Slayer' Skips Date, Note Expresses Fear

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 29 (UP). Three hours after the deadline for the surrender of the killer of Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia," police received a new note which said the murderer had changed his mind about giving himself up.

A previous communication had said the slayer of the 22-year-old beauty would give himself up at 10 a.m. today. The hour came and went without anything happening.

## New Note Sent

Early this afternoon Capt. Jack Donahue of police homicide bureau received a note. It was addressed to him and said:

"I have changed my mind about surrendering. I'm afraid I won't get a fair deal."

The note was composed of letters and words cut from newspaper, as were several previous messages apparently from the killer. It came in a typewritten envelope.

The envelope and note were turned over to the police crime laboratory for study.

The new note arrived shortly after the police had publicly pledged themselves to be fair to the slayer if he gave himself up.

For three days Donahue had awaited the deadline of the slayer's promise, received in the mail, to surrender himself at 10 a.m. today.

But the investigation was not without developments. In a 12-hour period, police received and rejected, completely or in part, three purported confessions to the brutal mutilation slaying of the black-haired girl.

The first came last night when Daniel S. Voorhees, 33, gave himself up to police after telephoning that he was the killer. He gave officers a written five-word "confession" which said: "I did kill Beth Short."

## held in Observation

Expert questioning on the dates when he allegedly met the girl convinced police it was unlikely that he killed her. But he was held in the county jail hospital ward.

Officers pointed out that Voorhees claimed he went out with the girl in 1941 but her family had said she did not come to the West Coast until 1943.

Detectives were even less impressed with the confession in San Diego of Emily E. Williams, alias Emily E. Carter, 24, a former Wac. San Diego officers said she told a rambling story and in their opinion was suffering from a mental ailment.

Miss Williams claimed she shot and stabbed Miss Short in an auto court on the outskirts of Los Angeles. The bisected body of Miss Short showed no evidence of a bullet wound.

The third unsupported confession came from Mannie Sepulveda, 37, who telephoned police and said "I killed Elizabeth Short." Officers met her outside a bar on South Vermont Ave. Brief questioning convinced them that she knew nothing of the case.

Although they had received nearly a half-dozen notes allegedly from the slayer, police were doubtful if any except the first had a real connection. It was the first note, received last Friday, which contained personal effects of the victim including her address book and birth certificate.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Leonard \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
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Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
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Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

## Soldier Who Dated 'Black Dahlia' Held

By the Associated Press

FORT DIX, N. J., Feb. 6.—A soldier said by Army authorities to have told of dating Elizabeth Short in Los Angeles on January 9—four days before the so-called "Black Dahlia" was found slain—was held in the Fort Dix stockade today while Army authorities awaited word from Los Angeles police.

Maj. Cornelius T. Morris, public relations officer, said the soldier, Corpl. Joseph Dumais of Claremont, N. H., related that after the date his "mind went blank" and the next thing he remembered was being in the Pennsylvania Station in New York City.

The 29-year-old former combat infantryman was examined yesterday by a psychiatrist, who recommended that he be placed in a hospital, Maj. Morris said.

Dumais was taken into custody on the complaint of another soldier, who told the provost marshal he was having trouble getting back money Dumais had accepted for safekeeping. Maj. Morris said Dumais mentioned the "Black Dahlia" slaying while being questioned.

Maj. Morris said Dumais told investigators he did not know of the slaying until he read about it in newspapers several days later. He produced some clippings from his wallet, Maj. Morris said.

He added that State police chemists had determined that dark stains inside a pocket of Dumais' trousers were human blood.

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26-50471

**'I'M TERRIFIED OF HIM MYSELF'**



**Madeline Nichols**  
Common-law wife dreads the Dahlia suspect.

## **'Saw 'Killer' At Dix When 'Dahlia' Died**

Continued from Page 8

knew the details of how her body was mutilated.

The Nicholas girl, who is one of three women whom Dumais has claimed as his wife during a series of tumultuous courtships and sudden break-ups, recalled with horror his temper.

She had seen him last on Thanksgiving Day, when he came to her mothers' home with a story about having just returned from overseas. She added:

"He said he had changed his ways, and asked me to go to dinner in Boston with him. I went, and he seemed all right. But, in a taxi, when I told him I wouldn't live with him again, he beat me up."

The girl managed to escape from the taxi and went to a police station.

## Dix Officials to Query GIs On 'Black Dahlia' Suspect

Army authorities at Fort Dix, N. J., last night admitted that a number of soldiers on the post have reported seeing Cpl. Joseph Dumais in camp on Jan. 10, 11 and 12, which tended to shed some doubt on Dumais's claim that he had a date with Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia," on Jan. 9 or 10, a few days before her nude, mutilated body was found in a vacant Los Angeles lot.

Los Angeles police found the Dahlia's body Jan. 15. They believe she was probably killed Jan. 14, but medical examination indicated she might have been dead for as long as 36 hours when her body was found.

Fort Dix authorities have no record of Dumais' presence on the post between noon, Jan. 13 and Jan. 17. They are now checking the reports Dumais was in camp

through Jan. 12. The soldiers who say they saw him will be questioned today.

Earlier, Dumais told Army Criminal Investigation men he had "blacked out" from drinking during a Jan. 9 or 10th date with the Dahlia in California while he was on furlough, and that it was "possible" he had killed her. Dumais also is supposed to have admitted knowing how the body was mutilated.

The 29-year-old, thrice married MP came into the case when he was arrested on charges of embezzling money from a fellow soldier. During routine questioning, he revealed he knew the Dahlia. A clipping telling of her death was said to have been found in his wallet, and blood-stains were said to have been on his clothing.

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Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Five Give Dahlia 'Slayer' an Alibi

From out of the brutal, woman-beating past of Cpl. Joseph Dumais, who has told authorities he "may have" slain Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia" of Los Angeles, came the voice of his forgotten common-law wife yesterday to brand him as a "vicious," psychopathic bully.

Madeline Nichols, 25, of Holliston, Mass., who bore the suspected killer a child during a violent romance, said yesterday at her home:

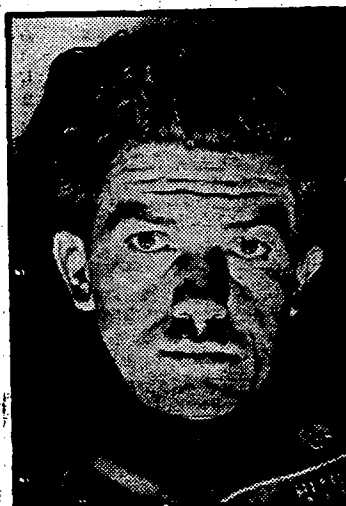
"If he did this awful crime, I hope he gets everything he deserves. I am terrified of him myself. He has vicious fits of temper and has beaten me on several occasions."

At Fort Dix, Dumais, who until his arrest had terrorized other soldiers as "the toughest M. P. in the Army," was closeted with Army Criminal Investigation Division officials, trying to check contradictions in his so-called "confession."

The case took a sensational turn, however, when International News Service reported that five enlisted men at Fort Dix will testify today that Dumais could not possibly have been on the West Coast at the time of the murder.

According to INS, the men will swear that Dumais was on the post between Jan. 10 and Jan. 16, and that they had seen him personally. The report said the soldiers particularly remembered the murder suspect because he had been censured for parading around in the uniform of a counter-intelligence officer.

Capt. William H. Florence, head of Dix's CID, who has said he



Cpl. Joseph Dumais  
Army "confident" he's the  
slayer.

is "confident" Dumais is the mystery slayer, was trying to break through the prisoner's "blackout" to ascertain these two key points: whether Dumais actually was in Los Angeles on Jan. 15, when Elizabeth Short was murdered, and whether he

Continued on Page 12

# Dahlia Suspect Veiled by Army; Story in Doubt

FORT DIX, N. J., Feb. 9 (NY News)—The army's criminal investigation division here, faced with the likelihood of having its Black Dahlia murder "solution" blow up in its face, withdrew behind a curtain of secrecy today.

Corp. Joseph Dumais, the gar-  
rulous combat veteran and mil-  
itary policeman, who said yester-  
day that it was "possible" that he  
was the killer, was being ques-  
tioned again by Capt. William H.  
Florence, head of the post's CID.

## Throws Up Veil

But Florence refused to talk to newspapermen, refused to let them question Dumais, and refused to tell what progress, if any, he was making. Yet yesterday he had announced that he was "con-  
vinced" Dumais murdered "The Dahlia"—attractive Elizabeth Short, 22, whose nude and sev-  
ered body was found in a Los Angeles lot on January 15.

Capt. Jack Donohoe, head of the Los Angeles homicide squad, said the weakest point in Florence's case was the fact that Fort Dix records show Dumais was in camp at 3 p.m. on January 15, the day Miss Short's body was found in the lot close to a frequently used sidewalk and in plain sight.

## Plane Possibility

The body probably was plated there after dark on January 14 or early on January 15, Donohoe said, otherwise it would have been discovered earlier. Dumais couldn't have done it and get back to Fort Dix by 3 p.m. of January 15, Donohoe said, without flying East on a Constellation plane and there is no evidence that he did.

Today three sergeants said they saw Dumais when he checked into camp January 10 after a 45-day furlough and that they saw him there on January 13, 14 and 15. Post records show he was there January 11, but there is no record of where he was on January 12.

Meanwhile at Tilton, N. H., the mother of Dumais' first wife reported her daughter alive and well. Dumais reportedly told authorities at Fort Dix she died under mysterious circumstances.

Mrs. Hazel de Langis said Dumais married her daughter, the former Eunice Fortune, on January 1, 1937, in Claremont where the corporal lived at that time. Town records show that Dumais was 19 and his bride 15.

Told of Dumais' statement that his first wife was dead, Mrs. De Langis replied:

"That is absurd. My daughter is alive and well."

Mr. Tolson ☒  
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Mr. Pennington ☒  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒  
Mr. Nease ☒  
Miss Gandy ☒

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DATED 2-19-47

# CITY ASKS FBI AID IN SOLVING 'DAHLIA' CASE

Request Follows Horrall Meeting  
With Bowron on Slayings

FBI aid in solving mutilation slayings of the "Black Dahlia" and the "Flying Nurse" was asked yesterday.

Police Chief C. B. Horrall made the request during a long conference with Mayor Fletcher Bowron. Los Angeles chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Action followed a meeting of Horrall with Mayor Fletcher Bowron. The Mayor was understood to have given unqualified approval to enlistment of Federal aid in the current wave of crimes against women.

## TWO KILLINGS

Two ghastly killings occurred within a period of 26 days.

Last January 15 the nude body of Betty Short, 22, called the "Black Dahlia," was flung into a vacant lot in the 3800 block of Norton avenue. She had been bludgeoned and her body severed at the waist.

February 10 brought discovery of the body of Mrs. Jeanne Ax-ford French, 45, actress, aviatrix and nurse, in a field off the 3200 block of Grand View boulevard, West Los Angeles.

She had been clubbed, then stamped to death by a man's feet. Her nude body was obscenely inscribed with lipstick—an im-printable phrase and the letters "B D," suggesting "Black Dahlia."

## HELP EXPECTED

There was little doubt in official circles that the FBI would join forces with police in the investigation.

Normally FBI men are involved only in offenses against Federal law or crimes involving two or more states.

It was pointed out, however, that law gives them jurisdiction when their help is requested by a chief of local law enforcement.

Entry of the FBI into the "Black Dahlia" and "Flying Nurse" cases would bring the vast resources of Federal crime laboratories, criminal record files and highly skilled operatives to bear on the crimes.

It was expected that FBI men would immediately begin a check of investigations completed or in progress by city detectives.

Emphasis was placed, however, that enlistment of FBI aid was not intended to disparage efforts of Los Angeles homicide officers, who have been working night and day on the cases.

On the contrary, the purpose of the move is to give them every possible assistance, it was said officially.

*Elizabeth Short*

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Mr. Tolson  
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Mr. Nease  
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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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## **'Dahlia' Suspect— Held in St. Louis**

ST. LOUIS, March 18 (INS).—  
 St. Louis police said tonight a  
 man held in the city jail since  
 Feb. 12 had admitted the slay-  
 ing in Los Angeles of Elizabeth  
 Short, "the Black Dahlia."

Picked up on a stolen-car  
 charge, he gave the name of  
 Melvin Bailey, 23, and said he  
 was from Missouri.

According to police, Bailey said  
 he met Miss Short at a Los  
 Angeles bar. They decided to  
 travel together to Missouri,  
 Bailey said, but the girl later told  
 him she was going to Missouri  
 with two soldiers.

Bailey said he was incensed by  
 this. While they were sitting in  
 a car, Bailey told authorities, he  
 seized a Commando knife and  
 stabbed the girl.

MAR 19 1947

## Youth Confesses Killing 'Dahlia' With Army Knife

St. Louis, March 18 (AP).—Chief of Detectives Leonard Murphy said a 23-year-old youth being questioned for auto theft today suddenly volunteered a detailed story of killing Elizabeth Short—"the Black Dahlia"—in Los Angeles last January.

Chief Murphy said the youth, booked as Melvin R. Bailey, 23, of Lemay, Mo., a St. Louis suburb, signed a statement giving details of the crime just before 7 p. m.

Murphy said Bailey told of "cutting her up" with his commando knife the night of January 12 after a round of drinking in a Los Angeles bar, because she refused to go East with him.

He said he had come to St. Louis by bus from San Francisco a few days after the killing.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Suspect Claims— He Killed 'Dahlia'

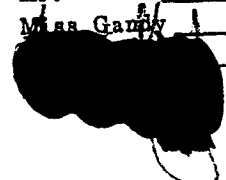
ST. LOUIS, March 18 (UP).—Melvin Bailey, 23, held on an auto theft charge, confessed today to the mutilation slaying of Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia," whose body was found in a Los Angeles lot last January 15.


Leonard Murphy, chief of detectives, said Bailey "seems to tell a straight story."

Bailey said he was "dazed" the night of the slaying by benzedrine he had taken "for a lift" and did not remember the details. However, he gave names and dates concerning events leading to the slaying. Police said he would be held for questioning by Los Angeles police to determine the authenticity of his confession.

In Los Angeles, police said there were several discrepancies in Bailey's story, especially as regarded dates. It was pointed out that Bailey said he killed the girl early on the morning of January 13 and immediately dumped her body in a lot. The body was not found until January 15 and an autopsy showed the girl had been dead less than 12 hours.

"We are neither accepting nor rejecting Bailey as a logical suspect until we have checked details of his story," said Detective L. Harry Hansen.

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MAR 18 1947



ELIZABETH SHORT

## Another 'Dahlia Killer' Pops Up

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 25 (UP). A 23-year-old Los Angeles painter, Charles E. Lynch today told police he killed Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia," while he was under the influence of marijuana and hacked her to pieces with a surgical knife.

At least 15 other "confessions" of the gruesome slaying here Jan. 15, 1947, have proved to be hoaxes.

Lynch was held on suspicion of murder. He will be questioned tomorrow. Early today the young man telephoned the homicide bureau from a bar and berated detectives for their inability to catch the killer. He was arrested in the bar a little later.

"I'm the one that killed the 'Black Dahlia,'" he told officers. "I'm glad you caught me. I want to get it off my mind."

Lynch said he first met Miss Short at the Lucky Spot cafe, Lompoc, Calif., near Camp Cooke, where she worked. They met again in a Los Angeles Main street bar last Jan. 14, he said.

"We went to a hotel and had a few drags of marijuana," Lynch told officers. "We took off our clothes and I killed her with a surgical knife I stole from the Camp Cooke hospital while I was in service."

Mr. Tolson ☒  
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 Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Leonard \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Carson  
 Mr. Egan  
 Mr. Hendon  
 Mr. Pennington  
 Mr. Quinn  
 Mr. Nease  
 Miss Gandy

# 'Best Suspect Yet' Held in Slaying of 'Black Dahlia'

By United Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11—A 27-year-old former hotel clerk and bellhop was described by police as the "best suspect yet" in the two-year old Black Dahlia mutilation murder.

Police said Leslie Dillon, alias Jack Sands, was familiar with details of the unsolved slaying that never were made public. He was held on suspicion of murder.

Elizabeth Short, the Black Dahlia, was found slain and mutilated Jan. 15, 1947, on a vacant lot in the southwestern part of Los Angeles. Police suspects have "confessed" voluntarily to the "Black Dahlia" crime during the past two years, but their "confessions" were proved fake by certain details withheld by police for checking purposes.

The 22-year-old beauty's naked body had been cut in half at the waist but other details of the mutilation were not made public.

## KNEW A SUSPECT

Dillon first came under suspicion when he contacted Police Psychiatrist J. Paul De River and offered to help him with a book on sadism. He told De River that he was in-



terested in sadism and sexual vagaries.

Dr. De River said Dillon told him he knew a man who was a "good suspect" in the Black Dahlia case.

Police became suspicious of Dillon and investigated him for six weeks before arresting him yesterday.

## DENIES CHARGE

When Dillon met Dr. De River, he allegedly told the psychiatrist details of the crime which police have not been able to explain. Police later learned that Dillon's explanations included significant explanations of the mutilation of Miss Short's body and her movements before she died.

Chief Horrall said it seemed impossible that the suspect knew as much about the case as he did without either having access to police files or first-hand knowledge.

Dillon, who said he had been discharged irregularly from the Navy, denied that he killed the Black Dahlia. He admitted being arrested in San Francisco on a pandering charge in 1946.

The suspect is married and the father of a baby girl.

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# 'BEST SUSPECT YET' IN BLACK DAHLIA MURDER



**Best Yet**

When Ladd/Dillon, former head  
architects and proposed chief  
in suspicion of the mutilation of  
Black Dahlia, may be the most  
suspect yet, because he revealed an

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Quir \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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## Los Angeles Bellhop Held In 'Black Dahlia' Killing

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—A bellhop who the police say knows minute details of the 2-year-old mutilation killing of Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia," is held incommunicado today as a suspect.

Booked on suspicion of murder, he gave his name as Leslie Dillon, 27, alias Jack Sands, J. F. Dillon and other names. He is a former sailor and intermittent Los Angeles resident.

Police Chief C. B. Horrall, who announced the arrest, said Dillon knows numerous details of the killing and mutilation "which could be known only to a person with direct knowledge of the murder itself."

Dillon denied killing or even knowing Miss Short, 22, a waitress with many boy friends and known as the "Black Dahlia" because of her fondness for sheer black clothing.

The girl's nude body, bisected at the waist, was found in a vacant lot January 15, 1947.

Chief Horrall said Dillon contacted Dr. J. Paul de River, police psychiatrist, six weeks ago, saying he was interested in sadism. Subsequently he arranged to meet Dr. de River, who said that for the last week he had been discussing the "Dahlia" killing with Dillon.

Detectives kept surveillance on Dillon and made the arrest.

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J. Edgar Hoover

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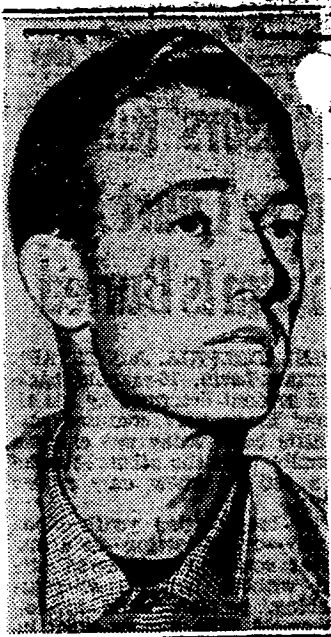
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Clipped from  
THE EVENING STAR  
Washington, D.C.  
Dated

JAN 11 1949





LESLIE DILLON

## Dahlia Suspect Names Second

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11 (INS) — Los Angeles police today jailed one "red hot" suspect in the mutilation murder of Elizabeth (Black Dahlia) Short and opened a nationwide manhunt for a second man.

Police said suspect number one, Leslie Dillon, a 27-year-old bellhop, broke down after all-night questioning and named a Jeff Connors, who is sought for questioning in the death of the 22-year-old beauty.

Police said Dillon described Connors as "about 5 feet 10 inches tall, with brown hair and blue eyes." Authorities said that every effort will be made to find Connors.

Dillon, tabbed the "hottest suspect in the case so far," was booked for murder.

Police Chief C. B. Horrall said the person identified by Dillon "would be capable of committing this crime."

The "Black Dahlia" was found slain Jan. 15, 1947. Her body had been dismembered and indications were that she had been subjected to tortures "of the most revolting sort."

Dillon, who was working as a bellhop at a Santa Monica hotel, was arrested after a fantastic chain of circumstances. Official interest in the thin youth began six weeks ago when he contacted police psychiatrist J. Paul De River.

Dillon said that he was interested in psychopathic cases, such as the unsolved "Black Dahlia" murder, and he wanted to collaborate with the psychiatrist in writing a book. The two met and Dr. De River found that Dillon "knew more about sadism and psychiatry than I did."

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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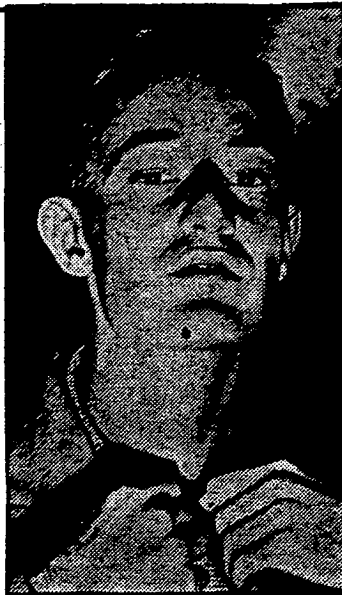
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Times Herald

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**NEW 'DAHLIA' SUSPECT**



Leslie Dillon, 27-year-old bellhop, was held incommunicado in Los Angeles as a suspect in the two-year-old "Black Dahlia" murder. Police say Dillon knows minute details of the slaying of Elizabeth Short, but denies killing or even knowing her, and named man "capable of committing this crime."

(AP WIREphoto)

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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# 'Dahlia' Suspect's Alibi Attacked

## Dancer Denies He's Her Former Husband

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12 (UP)—A handsome Hollywood bit player, arrested as a suspect in the "Black Dahlia" murder, alibied today that he was with his "former wife," Vickie Evans, a principal in the Robert Mitchum marijuana case, the night of the sadistic slaying in Los Angeles.

Jeff Connors, 40, debonair and smooth-talking, was picked up in Gilroy, Calif., and brought here on a tip from the latest "No. 1" suspect in the savage murder, Leslie Dillon, 27, who said Connors told him "intimate details" of how the "Black Dahlia" Elizabeth Short was killed.

### Says He was Working

On the night the Black Dahlia was murdered, Connors said, he was with Miss Evans and working as a stand-in on a Columbia Pictures lot. Her real name, he said, was Grace Allen. She is his former wife, he added.

In New York, Miss Evans denied through her counsel that she had been married to a man named Jeff Connors, that she ever knew

Connors said his real name was "Arthur Lane" and Connors was a pen name he has used for several years.

Miss Evans' Los Angeles lawyer said she had not come West until a year and a half ago.

### Miss Evans Arrested

Later today Miss Evans was arrested in New York on a Los Angeles warrant in connection with a police dope raid.

Connors branded the ex-San Francisco bellhop's attempt to implicate him as "ridiculous."

"I can prove exactly where I was at the time of the Dahlia murder," he told Joseph R. Egan, Los Angeles assistant chief of police who flew here as the bizarre case that shook southern California two years ago, was reopened in a series of rapid-fire developments.

Dillon, arrested two days ago, was released in Los Angeles on grounds of insufficient evidence. His story that "another man" had confessed knowledge of the crime to him had at first led police to believe he had a Dr. Jekyll-Mr. Hyde personality and the "other man" was really Dillon's alter-ego of a "split" personality.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_



## Vickie Evans Arrested in New York

Accompanied by detective Jacob Zuckerman, Vickie Evans is shown in New York after she was arrested on a Los Angeles warrant in connection with a police dope raid.



JEFF CONNORS

such a man or that she ever used the name of Grace Allen. Atty. Martin Benjamin said she was formerly married to a Pittsburgh utility company worker whose name he did not recall. Miss Evans was in seclusion.

*File file*

62-8227-A-  
NOT RECORDED  
44 MAR 11 1949

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Times Herald  
Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

5 MAR 16 1949

# Names Vicki As Dahlia Case Alibi

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12 (UP).—A handsome Hollywood bit-player, arrested as a suspect in the "Black Dahlia" murder, alibied today that he was with his "former wife," dancer Vicki Evans, a principal in the Robert Mitchum marijuana case, the night of the sadistic slaying in Los Angeles.

Jeff Connors, 40, debonair and smooth-talking, was picked up in Gilroy, Cal., and brought here on a tip from the latest "No. 1" suspect in the savage murder, Leslie Dillon, 27, who said Connors told him "intimate details" of how the "Black Dahlia," Elizabeth Short, was killed two years ago.

Connors branded the ex-San Francisco bellhop's attempt to implicate him as "ridiculous."

Dillon, arrested two days ago, was released in Los Angeles on grounds of insufficient evidence.

Connors said he knew the 22-year-old Miss Short "by sight" and had told Los Angeles police he saw her in a bar the night before her slashed body was found in a lot.

On the murder night, he said, he was with Miss Evans and working as a stand-in on a Columbia Pictures lot. Her real name, he said, was Grace Allen. She was his former wife, he added.

Columbia Pictures in Los Angeles denied ever having a "Jeff Connors" or "Arthur Lane" on their payroll.

In New York, Miss Evans denied through counsel that she had been married to a man named Jeff Connors, that she ever knew such a man or had ever used the name Grace Allen.

Connors said his real name is Arthur Lane and "Connors" is a pen name he has used several years.

Miss Evans' Los Angeles lawyer said she had not been in the West until a year and a half ago.

Reed took Connors to Los Angeles this afternoon when Reed said, Connors would be questioned further.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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EX-3

NOT RECORDED

44 MAR 11 1941

New York Daily Mirror  
Page 5  
Date

JAN 13 1949

51 MAR 18 1949

# Freelance Writer Held For Questioning in Black Dahlia Slaying

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 13.—A San Francisco freelance writer is held for questioning today concerning the slaying two years ago of Elizabeth

Short, known as the Black Dahlia.

The prisoner, Jeff Connors, 40, is en route here from San Francisco with Joseph Reed, Los Angeles assistant police chief, and detectives.

Connors, arrested at Gilroy, Calif., near San Francisco, Tuesday night and held for questioning on a



technical "en route" booking, denied he ever knew Miss Short, much less that he was involved in the brutal killing.

Named by Bellhop.

Detectives were led to Connors by statements made by Leslie Dillon, 27, Los Angeles bellhop, who was released yesterday after being held on a booking of suspicion of murdering Miss Short.

Police Chief C. B. Horrall said Dillon told detectives he had learned details of the Dahlia killing from Connors.

Connors told Mr. Reed and San Francisco officers that he knew Dillon but hadn't given Dillon any information about the killing and "I haven't the vaguest idea why he named me." He said he and Dillon met in a San Francisco bar in 1944.

Connors added that after the Dahlia killing—Miss Short's nude, beheaded body was found here January 13, 1947—he volunteered what he thought would be helpful information to Los Angeles police, namely, that the night before the slaying a girl friend of his had pointed out the "Black Dahlia" in a Los Angeles bar.

Wrote Police Psychiatrist.

Since Miss Short, 32, waitress with many boy friends, was killed, police have questioned hundreds of persons and have investigated more than 50 "confessions" throughout the nation, all of which have been disproved.

The present investigation developed after Dillon, from Miami, Fla., wrote to a police psychiatrist here, then came here to discuss the Dahlia case with him, was arrested, booked Monday and released.

Meantime, Mrs. Grace Allen of Los Angeles told a reporter she is the divorced wife of Connors and said he was working in a Hollywood studio the night before the Dahlia killing came to light. She said that when the newspapers appeared next day Connors talked about the case and warned her about the dangers of going out alone.

Connors said "Jeff Connors" was a professional name. Mrs. Allen said his real name is Arthur H. Connors. She said she would give any information she could to the police.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

67C  
Free

EX-125

INDEXED 6 62-82627-A  
NOT RECORDED  
44 MAR 11 1949

62 MAR 22 1949

WASHINGTON STAR  
Page 28  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Freelance Writer Held For Questioning in Black Dahlia Slaying

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 13.—A San Francisco freelance writer is held for questioning today concerning the slaying two years ago of Elizabeth Short, known as the Black Dahlia.

The prisoner, Jeff Connors, 49, is en route here from San Francisco with Joseph Reed, Los Angeles assistant police chief, and detectives.

Connors, arrested at Gilroy, Calif., near San Francisco, Tuesday night and held for questioning on a technical "en route" booking, denied he ever knew Miss Short, much less that he was involved in the brutal killing.

Named by Bellhop.

Detectives were led to Connors by statements made by Leslie Dillon, 27, Los Angeles bellhop, who was released yesterday after being held on a booking of suspicion of murdering Miss Short.

Police Chief C. B. Horrall said Dillon told detectives he had learned details of the Dahlia killing from Connors.

Connors told Mr. Reed and San Francisco officers that he knew Dillon but hadn't given Dillon any information about the killing and "I haven't the vaguest idea why he named me." He said he and Dillon met in a San Francisco bar in 1946.

Connors added that after the Dahlia killing—Miss Short's nude, dissected body was found here January 15, 1947—he volunteered what he thought would be helpful information to Los Angeles police, naming that the night before the slaying a girl friend of his had pointed out the "Black Dahlia" in a Los Angeles bar.

Wrote Police Psychiatrist.

Since Miss Short, 22, waitress with many boy friends, was killed, police have questioned hundreds of persons and have investigated more than 60 "confessions" throughout the Nation, all of which have been disproved.

The present investigation developed after Dillon, from Miami, Fla., wrote to a police psychiatrist here, then came here to discuss the Dahlia case with him, was arrested, booked Monday and released.

Meantime, Mrs. Grace Allen of Los Angeles told a reporter she is divorced wife of Connors and that he was working in a Hollywood radio the night before the Dahlia killing came to light. She said that when the newspapers appeared next day Connors talked about the case and warned her about the dangers of going out alone.

Connors said "Jeff Connors" was his pseudonym. Mrs. Allen said his real name is Arthur H. She said she would give any information she could to the police.



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*File*

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EX-25

Clipped from  
THE EVENING STAR  
Washington, D.C.  
Dated

JAN 13 1949

56 MAR 23 1949



Victim's former 1946 President's station last night with her brother, Joseph Martin.

# Movie Actor Seized In Dahlia Murder

San Francisco, Jan. 13 (AP).—A Hollywood hit player, arrested as a suspect in the Black Dahlia murder, admitted today that he was with his "former wife," dancer Vicki Evans, a principal in the Robert-Mitchum marijuana case, the night of the Los Angeles slaying two years ago.

Joe Connors, 40, a debonair and smooth-talking, was picked up today in Gibrey, Calif., and brought here on a tip from an earlier No. 1 suspect in the slaying murder, Leslie

## Odum Hopes For Record

San Francisco, Jan. 13 (AP).—William Odum, better known as "Red" Odum, today said he hoped to set a record for the longest time in the state prison for a murder conviction. He said he had been in the prison for 10 years and 10 months, and he hoped to stay there for 20 years.



# She Never Heard of the Jerk, Cries Vicki, Nixing 'Wife' Alibi

San Francisco, Jan. 13 (AP).—Vicki Evans today said she never heard of the "jerk" who was arrested as a suspect in the Black Dahlia murder. She said she was with her "former husband," Joe Connors, the night of the slaying, but she did not know who he was talking about.

Evans today verbally kicked the props out from under Joe Connors' alibi for the slaying. She said she was with him the night of the slaying, but she did not know who he was talking about. She said she was with him the night of the slaying, but she did not know who he was talking about.

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## She Never Heard of the Jerk, Vicki Nixes His 'Wife' Alibi

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## She Never Heard of the Jerk, Vicki Nixes His 'Wife' Alibi

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- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gandy

Free file

7-477

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CLIPPING FROM THE N. Y. News DATED JAN 13 1948 FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

51 MAR 20 1948

**Disproved?**



News-Ex.  
Los Angeles police claim the alibi  
of Jeff Connors (above), suspect  
in the slaying of the "Black  
Dahlia" has been disproved. Con-  
nors says he was with Dancer  
Vicki Evans the night that the  
"Black Dahlia" (Elizabeth Short)  
was brutally slain.

Mr. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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62-82627-A-

NOT RECORDED  
14 MAR 11 1949

EX-125



# Ex-Wife Supports Suspect's Alibi in 'Dahlia' Murder Case

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 13 (UP) — "Black Dahlia" murder suspect Jeff Connors' ex-wife, Mrs. Grace Allen, said today that he could not have slain Elizabeth Short two years ago.

Mrs. Allen said her ex-husband, whose real name is Arthur Lane, was working at Columbia studios the night of the "Black Dahlia" murder, Jan. 14, 1947.

Payroll records at the studio showed an Artie Lane worked as a laborer. The studio had failed to find him on its records as a writer, actor or standin.

## Arrested on a Tip

Connors was being brought here from San Francisco by automobile. He was picked up in Gilroy, Calif., 80 miles south of San Francisco on a tip supplied by a former suspect, Leslie Dillon, who was released yesterday.

Mrs. Allen, who lives in near-by Inglewood, told police she was positive of the date because she recalled that on Jan. 15, when the "Black Dahlia's" body was found, they discussed the crime.

"He doesn't know as much about the 'Black Dahlia' as I do, and I know absolutely nothing," she said.

When arrested, Connors said his former wife was dancing with Evans, a defendant in the Robert Mitchum marijuana case. But he said Miss Evans' real name was Grace Allen.

## Never Used Evans Name

The real Mrs. Allen said she had never gone by the name of Evans and could not explain why Connors made that statement.

Mrs. Allen said that on the night of Jan. 14, 1947, her husband went to work at 2 p.m. and came home at 11 p.m.

"On the following morning he showed me newspapers with the

warning that I shouldn't go out alone," she said.

Mrs. Allen said she and her former husband separated in March, 1947, and were divorced.

Connors, at the time of his arrest, was described by assistant police chief Joe Reed as "a definite suspect." The same thing had been said about Dillon until his release.

In the two years since the mutilated and bisected body of Miss Short was found, scores of suspects have been examined and released including several who "confessed" the slaying.



International Soundphoto

## Ex-Wife Gives 'Dahlia' Suspect Alibi

Shown in Los Angeles with her pet Scotty, Mrs. Grace Allen, divorced wife of Jeff Connors who is being held as a suspect in the "Black Dahlia" murder told reporters yesterday that he was working at the time of the slaying.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

676 [Redacted]  
16 [Redacted]  
J. Edgar [Redacted]

69

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Times Herald

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58 MAR 17 1948

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## 'Black Dahlia' Murder Site Found in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 13 (INS).  
 A Los Angeles newspaper reported

today that the scene of the mutilation slaying of Elizabeth Short — the "Black Dahlia" — has been discovered by grand jury investigators.



Elizabeth Short

The Herald and Express said that evidence uncovered in the 30-months-old butcher-murder indicates that the 22-year-old beauty with a penchant for sheer black underthings was killed near where the body was found.

It was reported that the room where the murder took place was less than 15 minutes drive from the vacant lot where the nude and bisected body of the girl was discovered Jan. 15, 1947, touching off a nation-wide hunt for the slayer.

Grand jury investigators, according to the newspaper, said blood-covered sheets and blood-stained clothes of the size worn by the "Black Dahlia" were seen in the room of a house on one of Los Angeles' busiest streets.

Numerous persons will be subpoenaed, a grand jury spokesman said, to testify concerning the new evidence.

The murder was the first of a series of unsolved Los Angeles murders of women. Hundreds of persons were questioned and scores arrested but no evidence pointed to the killer.

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OCT 12 1949

SEP 14 1949  
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 Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 N.Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_

# Dahlia Killing Story Checked

Police today were checking the "confession" of a man who claims he helped kill Elizabeth Short, 22, known as the "Black Dahlia," in Los Angeles on Jan. 15, 1947.

Ralph Von Hiltz, 44, walked into the E. 35th st. station just before midnight and told desk Lt. Arthur Bendix he wanted to give himself up.

Bendix turned him over to Dets. John Mostecak, John Mallon and Daniel Fisher. After hours of questioning he was charged with vagrancy and placed in a cell in the E. 67th station.

The story he told police was this:

He was a friend of a red-headed sailor named Daniel James, who was stationed at the San Diego, Calif. Naval Base. The movie struck short girl whose home was in Medford, Mass., was keeping company with the sailor.

According to Von Hiltz, the night Miss Short was murdered, he met James in Los Angeles and got in the sailor's car. They met Miss Short and James accused her of seeing other men. She got out of the car and James followed and shot her in

the stomach with a .22 caliber automatic.

Then he told Von Hiltz:

"Go ahead. Go ahead! Cut her up."

Von Hiltz said he got a butcher knife from the car and almost cut Miss Short's body in half, and otherwise mutilated her. On Jan. 18 or 19, 1947, he said, he was picked up by Det. Sgt. Henson of the Los Angeles Homicide Squad and held in Lincoln Heights Jail for three days while being questioned in the murder and then released. He said he did not mention James because he was afraid and that James always carried a gun.

Since then, Von Hiltz told detectives, he had been wandering around the country working as a dishwasher.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Wash. Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Date JAN 6 1956

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50 JAN 11 1956